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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Telecommunication Research Centre for Development of New Techniques and Technologies (IND/76/011)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	July 1979
Starting date of project activities:	September 1979 (Planned)
Planned completion date:	May 1981
To be executed by:	International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Government implementing agency:	Posts and Telegraphs Department (Ministry of Communications)
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$403 500
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The Telecommunication Research Centre (TRC) was set up by the Posts and Telegraphs Department in 1956 as its principle telecommunication Research and Development unit. In the first 22 years (1956 to 1978) the activities of the Centre contributed substantially to the introduction of new devices, systems and new techniques of planning/operation by the Posts and Telegraphs Department in India. Co-operation between the Centre and manufacturers in India has also resulted in the local manufacture of large amounts of professional equipment enabling rapid expansion of the telecommunications network. The Centre has also carried out technical investigations into problems of operating the services and problems of major faults in systems and equipment. Apart from giving technical advice to the Posts and Telegraphs Department, the Centre has also been acting as a consultant to many other organizations in the fields of telecommunications and electronics.

*In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250 000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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2. In addition to a number of new systems which it is planned will be studied, developed and tried in the field, the Centre has laid stress in its future work plan on the study and development of new techniques for adoption in the following areas: traffic engineering, network studies, engineering studies and use of computers. Traffic engineering, network studies and engineering studies are basic to the introduction of telecommunications services in rural areas, and therefore, the Centre requested UNDP assistance to make rapid progress in these areas.

II. Objectives and activities

3. The immediate objective of the project is to evolve or develop the most appropriate new techniques and technologies for adoption in India in the areas mentioned in paragraph 4 below. This will entail: (a) an initial phase of study and experimentation to evolve the most appropriate techniques; and (b) field trials to establish the feasibility of new techniques. The assistance proposed is for the initial phase of studies and experimentation with the objective of evolving the most appropriate techniques for subsequent actual trial and evaluation.

4. The project will deal with the following areas: (a) traffic engineering including traffic measurements, dimensioning of switching equipment, and network planning; (b) network studies including network management, automation in network maintenance, digital network and public data network; and (c) engineering studies including reliability engineering, protection engineering, and electrical network design. After preliminary study of the subjects by the national staff, 9 consultants in each of the above sub-areas will join the project to guide the national staff in undertaking the work programme, identify the necessary equipment, and recommend fellowship studies for the national staff. Subsequently, the fellowships will be implemented, the equipment procured and the national staff will start on the work programme. At this stage, the consultants will again join the project for the duration of 1.5 months each to assess the progress made in the project activities.

III. Inputs

5. UNDP will provide for the services of the consultants referred to in paragraph 4 above, for fellowships and for equipment as recommended by the consultants and not locally available.

6. The Government will provide national staff (engineering/technical supporting staff), the necessary facilities in terms of space, laboratories and equipment, and administrative and clerical help.

IV. Financial data

7. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

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Personnel	166 000
Training	113 700
Equipment	120 000
Miscellaneous	3 800
	403 500

8. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $201,200 in kind.

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